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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1917.  
VETO THE PENSION STEAL, MR. TAFT.

"A straight tip has been received from the White House," says the Washington correspondent of the Brooklyn Eagle, "that President Taft will veto the so-called pension-grub bill unless it is radically amended. As a result of this threat, the Senate Committee on Pensions is now pruning the House measure and preparing to reduce its cost about 50 per cent." As the bill passed the House, it carries \$15,000,000, which would be added to the already grievous load which the people are bearing for the sake of the "patriots" who "saved the Union" forty-five years ago, and who have been paid for that glorious service down to this time about \$2,000,000,000, or nearly as much as the entire cost of the War Against the South. There are now \$21,000,000 on the pension rolls of the Government, of whom—subtracting the pensioners of the War of the Revolution, the War of 1812, the War with Mexico, the Indian wars and the War with Spain, numbering 41,011—\$80,072 fought for the Union. "A grateful country" has been paying them at the rate of \$150,000,000 annually for their services, and the present bill would make their compensation about \$200,000,000 the year.

The bill has passed the House. Speaker Cannon got down from his seat and made a marvellously stupid but effective speech in its support, and the House followed his lead. It makes arbitrary increases in the pensions of all persons sixty-two years of age or over who served ninety days in the Confederate War or in the War with Mexico, the increase in the pensions of soldiers sixty-two years old to be \$15 instead of \$12 the month, the pensions of soldiers seventy years old to be \$25 instead of \$15 the month, and the pensions of those seventy-five years old to be \$35 instead of \$20 the month. A special class of the sixty-five-year-old soldiers is created, who are to be pensioned at the rate of \$20 the month. It is reported that the Senate committee proposes to amend the bill by combining a straight increase with a limitation based on length of service, so that no increase will be given to those who served only ninety days. The greatest increase possible under the bill as it is to be amended by the Senate will be only \$4 the month, instead of \$15, as provided in the House bill, by which plan it is estimated that not more than \$5,000,000 will be added annually to the pension roll. There has been no suggestion anywhere that the pension burden shall be reduced by eight million dollars, or by so much as eight cents; the only suggestion is that the Senate is willing to steal only \$5,000,000, while the House, which was elected "by disservice of the people," has committed itself to stealing nearly six times as much, and all in the name of patriotism.

We do not put much dependence in these "tips from the White House," these reports of "those who have talked with Mr. Taft," these daily outpourings of those who "know" what Mr. Taft is thinking about and has determined to do. But he will find in the "Messages and Papers of Presidents" Volume VIII, some very pertinent reading on the subject of pensions. There was a man by the name of Grover Cleveland, who wrote upon this subject in a very illuminating way. We wish Mr. Taft would read his special and general messages and try to follow his illustrious example. At the session of Congress in 1856, six hundred special pension bills were introduced in the two Houses of that body, or three times the number that had been passed at any session of Congress since the year 1821. At that time the country was paying \$7,000,000 the year in pensions; it is now twice that amount; it is proposed to make it nearly three times as much. There must be a point beyond which "a grateful country" cannot go, and we think that point was passed years ago. Mr. Cleveland had a fine way of indicating his opposition to such legislation. His vetoes of the special pension bills generally began in this form: "I herewith return, without approval House bill No. 6825, entitled, 'An act granting a pension to James Jones,'" and this formula was followed with the reasons for his disapproval of the measure, and when the "Dependent" pension bill, a sort of omnibus affair, which proposed to take in everybody, came up, he rose to the dignity of the subject. Mr. Taft will find this message on page 645. It fills eight pages, and he could easily read it in half an hour, and he would find it mightily interesting reading and a very good model, indeed, for the veto message which he is said to have in view.

The dead of the Union armies who fell in battle, would rise up, if they could, and praise him for saying them from the scandal of the present robbery of the Government, which is done in their name and in the name of the cause for which they made the supreme sacrifice. We hope he will do what Grant would do if he were here and had the power—what any honest soldier, jealous of his country's good name, would do, and what Mr. Taft should do in the sacred name of true patriotism.

**THE CITY ENGINEER'S OFFICE.**  
The Lynch investigating committee of the Council Committee on Streets presented yesterday as the result of its labors a number of findings and recommendations, which, if properly acted upon, will be of the greatest value to the city.

The most vital features of the report are: That the City Engineer shall be actual as well as titular head of his office, with full authority over his subordinates; that the assistant engineers shall be required to give bond; that inspectors of public works be employed by the month; that a chief clerk be appointed, having full charge of the office and office force; that a new and accurate survey and map of the city be made.

The result of the changes when adopted—as they surely ought to be and will be—will be to put the office of the City Engineer and matters and persons connected with it on a businesslike basis. Waste and duplication will thereby be prevented. Efficiency and harmony will characterize the action of the working force of this important municipal department; order will be substituted for chaos; there will be less dereliction to duty. The recommendations are thoroughly practical.

Strong, sane, conservative, the report of the subcommittee meets the situation, and for their efficient and thorough labors the investigators deserve much commendation.

**SAN FRANCISCO WINS.**  
By a vote of 209 to 43, the House of Representatives at Washington has decided in favor of San Francisco and against New Orleans as the site for the exposition to be given in 1915 in celebration of the opening of the Panama Canal. We do not know what the Senate will do about it, but it is almost certain that the Senate will follow the example of the House. It is reported that San Francisco won by capturing the Republicans in the House, only thirty of whom voted for New Orleans. As a stand-off against these very sensible Republicans, thirty-six foolish Democrats voted for San Francisco.

The Californians do not—yet—ask for Government aid in any form, but have only asked that the President be authorized to invite foreign nations to participate in the exposition. New Orleans, on the other hand, asked that the Government make an appropriation of \$1,000,000 for a Government exhibit and the creation of a Government commission. This countless influence some of the members of Congress to vote for San Francisco rather than for New Orleans, but before the enterprise will under way it is almost as certain as death that Congress will be asked to provide for a Government exhibit at San Francisco.

We are very sorry that the Congress has adopted San Francisco as the site for this exposition, because it lies at the very edge of the Continent—the jumping off place—whereas the great city on the Gulf is by actual measurement nearer to the Isthmus of Panama than any other port on the Atlantic or Gulf Coast.

Mr. W. B. Thompson, President of the New Orleans Cotton Exchange, recently appeared before the House Committee on Liberal Arts and Expositions and made a most convincing speech in support of the New Orleans proposition. He advanced arguments which could not be successfully controverted. Among other things, he claimed that "from a geographical standpoint the situation of New Orleans is ideal from the same standpoint the situation of San Francisco is impossible. In the essential considerations of location and relation to our own country and to the outside world New Orleans, of all the considerable cities of the United States offers them about the best site; San Francisco uncontestably the worst."

From the money point of view New Orleans also appears to have the advantage. The State of California has obligated itself to produce the sum of \$17,500,000 for the purpose of holding the exposition in San Francisco. The State of Louisiana has released itself to the extent of \$10,000,000, if the exposition should be held there. California has voted a tax which will yield the sum of \$10,000,000, the balance of this contribution to be made by private subscription; Louisiana has voted a tax which will yield \$8,500,000, the balance to be made by private subscription, of which more than \$1,500,000 has already been subscribed in negotiable notes.

The advantages of New Orleans, as the members of Congress should have realized, is in its nearness to the Isthmus, proximity to the rest of the country, friendly relations with all the nations of the earth and ample ability to take care of the great project, as New Orleans has already demonstrated its ability in other expositions. With a port having thirty-seven miles of river front, adequate hotel accommodations, twenty-eight separate and distinct lines of direct railways, and practically the second port in the United States—it would seem that New Orleans had a special claim upon the favor even of the Republican members of the Congress at Washington.

In speaking to the Committee on Expositions, Mr. Thompson gave some statistics which ordinarily would affect the decision in so important a matter as this. In the fiscal year ending June 30, 1909, 1,169 vessels of the net tonnage of 2,163,316 tons were

cleared from New Orleans for foreign ports. During the same period 560 vessels of 863,937 net tonnage were cleared from San Francisco. The total value of the imports and exports of New Orleans during this period amounted to \$196,988,587, and the total imports and exports of San Francisco amounted to \$80,551,103. In respect, therefore, of situation, of nearness to the Panama Canal, of business, and from every point it should have appeared to rational men that New Orleans was infinitely superior to the great Pacific port as a place for the Canal Exposition of 1915. The nearest of the foreign nations to San Francisco are the Chinese and the Japanese, and it is hardly to be expected, in the circumstances, that those countries will care to participate in a great exposition to be held in the California town. Besides, if the reports that have been printed about the hostile intentions of the Japanese against the United States have any truth in them, no country would care to make an exhibit of its resources at a place where the little yellow fellows over the sea might "shoot them up" at their will.

There is no question about the greatness of San Francisco, about the opulence of California, about the enterprise of the people of the Pacific Coast, but we should as soon think of holding an exposition at Tampa to celebrate the discovery of gold in Alaska, as to hold an exposition in San Francisco to celebrate the opening of the Panama Canal. Distance ought to influence in some degree, at least, the settlement of such questions as this. New Orleans has lost apparently at Washington, although New Orleans deserved to win.

**THE PRACHERS AND THE CANAL.**  
The Methodist ministers of Cincinnati are behaving badly—we mean the Methodist ministers who belong to the Northern Church. They have undertaken, as the dispatches report, a countrywide movement against the fortification of the Panama Canal, and it is said that "from pulpits in every State fortifications will be attacked." They hold that it would be wrong morally and politically to have the Canal stand as an invitation for war, and at the meeting of the Ministers' Association in Cincinnati on Tuesday action was taken which signified the intention of this organization "to fight President Taft's idea to the last ditch." One particularly bright brother, the Rev. Dr. G. W. Dubois, pastor of the Price Hill Methodist Episcopal Church, showed that he knew what he was talking about when he cited The Hague agreement, which forbids the bombardment of unfortified places. This, as he explained to his brethren, is "indicative of the way in which nations in the future will carry on wars that may arise." He would have the great engineering work at the Isthmus of Panama stand forever as an invitation of peace and not as a challenge to war, but he is convinced that if "fortifications are built there it will stand forever as a polite invitation to 'shoot them up' at their will."

That is a remarkable view to be taken of the situation. Forts are generally built, of course, for the purpose of inviting attack, not of providing defense, and enemies that are prowling around would naturally seek fortified places as the most convenient points of invasion. That is one reason armies are created and men are equipped with rifles and ammunition, because it would be so much easier to get by them when they are armed than if they were empty-handed.

We hope Mr. Taft will go on with the fortification of the Canal. By the time it is completed the United States will have expended upon its construction probably not less than three-quarters of a billion of dollars. In the opinion of Admiral Evans, the best defense of the Canal would be the Navy of the United States. In the opinion of Admiral Dewey, the Canal should be fortified so that it may be well administered, so that the immense volume of money expended in its construction, and the interests of this country, religious as well as commercial, may be guarded against any enemy that shall offer.

If the Northern Methodist Ministers of Cincinnati would take care of their own concerns and would fortify themselves against the designs of Satan, they would be doing their full duty. They do not know anything about the Canal, or the reasons for its fortification, and we should prefer to follow Mr. Taft here rather than the ministers of the gospel of peace, who are now talking about "fighting President Taft's idea to the last ditch."

**MUNICIPAL MUSIC.**  
Several of the larger cities in the United States have tried the experiment of free music for the people and have found it a most successful as well as a most popular enterprise. It is said that there are now about sixty cities which appropriate annually money for the maintenance of municipal music. An enthusiastic adherent of this form of municipal activity says that free music "meets the wishes of 90 per cent. of the people and the 10 per cent. who can afford to go away in the summer do not care."

Boston appropriates annually \$35,000 for its public concerts. The estimated attendance upon these concerts in Boston is about 500,000 each season. Philadelphia gives each summer season \$25,000 for band concerts for fourteen weeks. For this purpose New York gives \$55,000, and Baltimore \$20,000.

Denver has been most prominent in providing music for the people of that city. Denver contracts with the municipal band at the rate of \$100 for the two concerts on Sunday alone, aside from the regular daily concerts, the

expense of which is borne by the city and the street railway company, the latter paying one-third the cost for the band of 42 men.

A correspondent writes that "It can be said with absolute confidence that no money is spent in the city of Denver for the purpose of giving pleasure to the people of that city than that spent by the Park Department. The individual property owners and heavy real estate interests of the city are convinced after watching the returns of the Mayor that money spent for parks, playgrounds, boulevards, and music is well invested, because the returns come in increased taxes for the thousands who, while they do not own their own homes, are given the pleasure of enjoying the splendid parks, playgrounds and music of Denver."

Denver Municipal Facts, the periodical published by the city of Denver, says that during the year 1910 the auditorium was visited by 610,000 persons, and of that number 202,800 attended the free Sunday concerts. During this year there was but one arrest made at the auditorium; there were no ambulance calls or calls for physicians with the exception of three occasions.

The theory upon which the cities providing municipal music proceed is that the city ought to provide at reasonable times some uplifting entertainment for its people. In view of the fact that so great a proportion of the city population is unable to get away at all in the summer for a rest, many cities have concerts wholly in that season.

The city fathers will be asked soon to set aside \$1,000 for the purpose of providing next summer a series of twelve concerts in Richmond. Those who have the matter in charge will at the proper time present a number of reasons for such an appropriation, and it is hoped that the sum may be given for this purpose, if circumstances permit.

**JAMES ALBERT HARRISON.**  
One of the most learned scholars whom this Commonwealth has seen in many years was James Albert Harrison, emeritus professor of Teutonic languages at the University of Virginia, who died on Tuesday. For almost forty years he served as a college professor in Virginia—first at Randolph-Macon, then at Washington and Lee, and for fifteen years at the University of Virginia.

Filling many posts of honor in the society of scholars in this country, Dr. Harrison was not only a great lecturer and teacher, but also a recognized authority on the many subjects to which he contributed his learning. In the study of Anglo-Saxon he had few peers in this or any other country. He was a master philologist.

Perhaps the greatest service he rendered to the cause of American letters—and more especially to Southern literature—was his superb edition of the works of Edgar Allan Poe. These seventeen volumes greatly added to the fame of the melancholy genius and widened the vista through which the literary world looks upon Poe. Dr. Harrison did much toward revealing the author of "The Raven" in his true light, illuminating the character of the poet in a masterly biography.

Now that "the life so short" of this really great teacher has ended, now that he has left the "craft so long to learn" and finished "th' essay so hard," the fine epitaph of Chaucer may be applied fitly to Dr. Harrison, "gladly wolde he lerne and gladly teach."

**THE NEGRO PYTHIANS IN TENNESSEE.**

A bill has been introduced in the Legislature by officers of the Grand Lodge of the Knights of Pythias of Tennessee against the negro Order of that name. We do not know the terms of the bill nor are we acquainted with the merits of the case; but we are told by the Chattanooga Times that the "Negro Knights of Pythias lodges are clandestine; they have no authority from the constituted powers of the regular Order to either their title or any of the ritual they use except that part they have added for themselves, and they are, therefore, in the attitude of appropriating the property rights of others, and to which they haven't the most remote color of title, to their own use, without the consent of the owners. In ordinary matters men who do this suffer the penalties of criminal laws."

We do not suppose that the negro Pythians, so-called, have had the least intention of violating the law or giving offence to the regular Order; but that they have been influenced only by a desire to make the best of their opportunities, to provide for their own entertainment by means which have received so much favor at the hands of their white neighbors, to educate themselves in the mysteries of secret organizations even as their white brethren. After all, however, they have only laid themselves open to the charge of imitation than which there could be no sincerer flattery of the men whom they would copy in their association for purposes of pleasure or benevolence. They have made the mistake of following too closely the example of their neighbors and of appropriating to their own use any part of the ritual and name of the true Knights, and, without waiting for legislative or judicial action, they should make all possible haste to relieve themselves of the charges that have been brought against them.

We have never understood why the negro should not do something, originate something, on his own account; why he should be eternally tagging on to the rights of his white neighbors. He has his own Orders of the Sons and Daughters of I Will Arise, or the Sons and Daughters of Elijah, and he has observed, probably, that there has been no disposition on the part of his white neighbors to imitate him by organizing similar societies, or societies with the same sort of names. The negroes have tried to be Masons because there are Masons among the white people. They organized an order of Elks because the whites have an Order of Elks. There are also Owls and Eagles among the whites—why are there not Roosters and Rabbits among the negroes? They flatter the whites by their imitation, but they cause hard feeling by it, and now that they have been free for nearly half a century they should do something for themselves that is original. It may be that the Pythians of Tennessee are a little touchy about the negro Pythians, and it is not unlikely that some remedy will be found for the trouble of which they complain; but we are sure that the negroes have not meant any harm.

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**FREAK LAWS.**

The Green Bag points out some very interesting cases of eccentric laws: In Lucerne a law forbids women to wear hats of more than eighteen inches in diameter or to wear foreign feathers and artificial flowers. To wear ribbons of silk and gauze, a Lucerne woman must get a license, which costs eighty cents the year.

Norway has a recent law that before a woman can get married she must present a certificate showing that she can cook, knit, sew and embroider.

Germany has a practical method of dealing with men who ill-treat their wives. Instead of sending them to jail for a continuous period, as we do in the United States, and thus depriving the family of the man's wages for that time, the German offender is arrested on Saturday as he leaves his work and held in prison until time to leave for work on Monday. This plan is followed until he has served the number of days of his sentence. His money is turned over to his wife.

In Belgium they place a premium on marriage by allowing a married man two votes at an election and a bachelor only one. In Madagascar a man is fined if he is not a father.

In Austria a heavy fine is imposed upon any actor who wears a military or ecclesiastical costume on the stage. In Germany such costumes may be worn, but the wearers will get in trouble unless the costumes are correct in every detail.

**OUR SILVER AND GOLD.**

Six Southern States in 1909 produced nearly \$2,000,000 in the mining of precious metals. This is the estimate of the Geological Survey. Not many people stop to think that a good deal of gold and silver and much copper is furnished annually by the mines of the South.

Virginia, in 1909, furnished \$2,750 in gold, \$2,569 in silver, \$29,111 in copper. Alabama yielded \$29,239 in gold and \$119 in silver. North Carolina had an output of \$10,230 in gold, \$259 in silver, and \$29,186 in copper. Georgia boasts of \$66,429 in gold and \$165 in silver. South Carolina produced \$11,353 in gold and \$23 in silver, a most astonishing fact, for we did not know there was that much money in the whole State. Tennessee yielded \$4,118 in gold, \$29,971 in silver, \$2,496,885 in copper, and \$61,376 in zinc.

There is comfort in knowing that there is more where this was obtained.

Woodrow Wilson spoke to the Kansas Society in New York last week and defined for its members some of the political terms which have lately come into general use. For example, he explained that a radical meant one who is said to go too far. A conservative is one who doesn't go far enough, and a reactionary is one who doesn't go at all. He stopped there; that is to say, he did not describe the progressive; but this omission has been supplied by William Barnes, in the Albany Journal, who says that "a progressive is one who goes off at a tangent."

There is talk of the Greater Charlotte Club asking Mr. Taft to stop in that town for an hour or so on his way to Atlanta in March. We should like to see him sidestep the "Declaration" again as he sidestepped it in 1909. That was really the nearest bit of work he ever did, and they haven't quit talking about it to this day.

We think far more of Olga Netherstoe than we ever thought before, but we would think still more of her if she had not weakened at the last and sent her dog to the trash room instead of staying by it all the time. That is where the great actress lost her cue. The Greensboro Record says that the hotels in Charlotte have been warned to have a room ready for the dog if they care to entertain the dog's mistress, but there ought to be some old-fashioned home in that town in which the dog would find a cordial welcome.

In the course of a wholly personal letter, a distinguished member of the Montgomery, Alabama, bar, writes: "We have a new Governor here, and a new Legislature in session, which is going to undo the prohibition laws. There is little doubt about that. Prohibition in Alabama has been a ridiculous failure."

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**Daily Queries and Answers**  
Address all communications for this column to Query Editor, Times-Dispatch. No mathematical problems will be solved, no coins or stamps valued and no dealers' names will be given.

**Constant Temperature.**  
How do the coasts compare in temperature, etc., with the interior? M. P.  
On charts the mean annual temperature is represented by isothermal lines, or those connecting points of the same degree of heat. These lines vary somewhat from year to year, but in general do not cross North America in an east and west course, but are deflected toward the north as the Pacific is approached, reaching the western coast many degrees of latitude nearer the pole than in the East. The isotherm of 30 degrees, near the limit of agriculture, passes from Labrador southward, crosses the lower end of Hudson Bay, turning sharply northward to the West, and rising to the coast region of Alaska. The isotherm of 50 degrees starts at Long Island, passes gradually two-thirds of the way across the continent, then bends sharply south to Mexico, and toward the Pacific turns abruptly northward to meet the Canadian border. The isotherm of 70 degrees crosses the middle of Florida, crosses the lower end of the Mexican Gulf, and turns north to the Ito Grande. Both the Southwestern United States and Northwest Canada have regions of ten inches or less of the Pacific range of elevation is great, ranging from twenty inches or less on the coast near the Ito Grande to 120 inches in British Columbia, and 100 near the Alaskan boundary.

**Visiting Jubilee.**  
When was the great musical jubilee held in Boston, Mass., after the close of the Civil War, and how many participated? H. T.  
The international peace jubilee was held in that city June 17 to July 4, 1866. There was a chorus of about 2,000, an orchestra of 100, and military bands and performers of different nations. A day was allotted to each nation.

**Humiliated Jubilee.**  
Why is it that so many writers and speakers use "humiliated" when referring to acts of cowardice or military defeat? The only definition I can find is one who does not believe in the divine right of the monarch. The word has a recent secondary meaning of benevolence or philanthropy, according to Webster.

**Test for MILK.**  
What is the formaldehyde test for milk? Decide it. M.  
The milk is diluted with an equal volume of water, and sulphuric acid containing a trace of ferric chloride is added, so that it forms a layer below the milk. Under these conditions milk in the absence of formaldehyde gives a slight greenish tinge at the juncture of the two liquids, while a violet ring forms a half minute after mixing, sometimes not so quickly; therefore, the test tubes are allowed to stand a few minutes. The test is made with ample light, lest the brown ring which sometimes forms as a result of the caramelization of the sugar in the milk while it is mistaken for the violet ring of formaldehyde.

**Lady Mayor.**  
Has any woman ever held the office of "Lady Mayor" of any place in England? W. R.  
Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M. P., a sister of Millicent Fawcett, the well known English suffragist leader, was elected Mayor of Aldersburg (Suffolk) in 1905, and was announced in the papers of that country as "England's first lady Mayor."

**A Million.**  
What is a billion? Q.  
In the United States it is a thousand millions; in Germany, a million millions; the same in England, while in France, it is as in the United States, a thousand millions.

**Woolsey.**  
Of what noted university or college was Theodore Woolsey the name of president, and during what years? H. T.  
Yale College. Was president from 1846 to 1871.

**Macadamized Roads.**  
When and where were macadamized roads first laid down? P. E.  
The first was laid as an experiment in Ayrshire, Scotland, by John Macadam, the inventor, in 1816.

**Vessel.**  
Why is a ship called "she" or "her"? V. O.  
No one has yet discovered why a vessel bears a masculine name, such as General Orlando M. Poe, should be called "she" or "her."

**Limerick: Races.**  
In what book can I find an old-time Irish song entitled "Limerick Races"? R. F.  
It is published in De Witt's "Forget Me Not Songster" (Irish volume).

**Two Deaths.**  
Did President McKinley and Queen Victoria die the same year? N. D.  
Both 1891—Victoria, January 22, and McKinley, September 14.

**Papers.**  
What daily papers are published in Carrollton, Mo.? The Democrat and the Republican Record.

**AUSTRIAN EMPEROR CAUTIONS DON JAIME**  
BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.  
DON JAIME was summoned to Vienna the other day by Emperor Francis Joseph, to appear before a private audience at the palace of Schoenbrunn was given to understand, with all the directness of language of which the venerable monarch is capable, that he would not tolerate his remaining in Austria, and would not permit him to continue to reside at his beautiful home of Frohsdorf, if he inaugurated any active insurrection against Alfonso in Spain. Should the Emperor bar Don Jaime from Austrian territory, it is on the cards that his engagement to the daughter of Prince Hohenlohe would be broken off. It may be remembered that Don Jaime recently resigned his commission in the Russian army in order to devote himself to the promotion of his pretensions to the throne of Spain.

I have mentioned that Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton is the principal legate of the late Lady Meux, having inherited her title and her beautiful country seat of Theobald's Park, her town house at 41 Park Lane, a house on the sea front of the fashionable district of Grosvenor, and a chateau known as Sucey-en-Brie, some twenty miles from Paris, along with Sucey House, at East Sucey, and the manor of Sucey, which he inherited from his mother, at East Sucey Castle, a landmark on the Isle of Wight, and familiar to every American traveler who arrives in Europe via the Solent and Southampton.

Verker is the patronymic of young Lord Gort, and the Verker family was founded by one of those Flemish gentlemen of birth who took service under Charles I. against Cromwell, who remained in the service of the Stuart king, Charles II, during the latter's exile in Holland, and who on the restoration received grants of land in Ireland from the monarch, in recognition of his devotion to his cause, and to that of his father.

On the staff side, both Miss Verker and her fiancé, Lord Gort are descended from Maurice, Lord of Prendergast, in Pembroke. He was one of the principal Norman knights associated with Strongbow, Earl of Wexford, in the invasion of Ireland, and eventually became more Irish than the Irish, giving an inheritance of the name of Verker, to the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and contenting himself with his estates in the Emerald Isle. His son was one of the signatories of the Magna Charta, and his grandson, Gerald de Prendergast, founded the Abbey of Ennisceorthy. The Prendergasts were descended from the famous King of Ireland, on the occasion of his invasion of Ireland, and the male line became extinct through the death of Sir Thomas Prendergast, Posthumous General of Ireland, in the eighteenth century. He was succeeded by his sister's eldest son, John Verker, first Viscount Gort, and dying childless, was followed in his honors and estates by the son of his own sister, who had married Thomas Verker.

Emperor Matsui-Hito's special embassy at the coronation of King George and Queen Mary, and Prince Hirohito, to excite a good deal of interest, by reason of its composition. For, while the ambassador-in-chief will be the Mikado's cousin, Prince Hirohito, who visited the court of St. James some three years ago, returning home via the United States. The Japanese navy will be represented by Admiral Togo, the victorious commander of the great naval battle of Tsushima, in 1905, and the Japanese army will be represented by Marshal Oyama, who commanded in-chief the equally victorious Japanese forces in Manchuria in the war between Japan and China. These two men share with Lord Kitchener the distinction of being the only three great commanders still in active service who have had successful careers in the war between Japan and China. These two men share with Lord Kitchener the distinction of being the only three great commanders still in active service who have had successful careers in the war between Japan and China. These two men share with Lord Kitchener the distinction of being the only three great commanders still in active service who have had successful careers in the war between Japan and China.

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